



31st January 2019

Dear Members,

Welcome to a New Year, looking forward to working with you all to continue to provide Palliative Care Support to the patients, carers and families of the Great Lakes area.

We have started the New Year well with a donation of \$5000 from Telstra Connected Communities. Thank you to all the Telstra customers who voted for us. We also received \$1000 from Forster Keys Progress and Ratepayers Association (proceeds of \$700 from Carols on the Keys and rounded up to \$1000) we are indeed blessed by a generous and supportive community.

Just to let you know we provided an extra 400 hours of assistance to Palliative Care patients last year. The care is delivered by Mid Coast Assist, paid for by GLPCS and includes domestic assistance, personal care and nursing visits over and above what is provided by our dedicated Community Palliative Care Nurses.

Our name change has come into effect; hence see the new logo at the top of the page. There will be a time of transitioning over to the new name and logo for new badges, shirts and paperwork and that is underway at the moment.

A submission has been sent to Michael Di Rienzo CEO Hunter New England Area Health Service from GLPCS and Push for Palliative requesting the placement of a Palliative Care Specialist in the Taree, Forster area. Remember there was a time we didn't have an Oncologist, now we have two. Hopefully a Palliative Care Specialist will come to fruition in the not too distant future.

Can I encourage you to join our Fundraising Auxiliary to assist with organising and participating in fundraising, events and increasing the awareness of Palliative Care Support throughout the community. The Auxiliary Meeting is held on the second Thursday of the month at Tuncurry Beach Bowling Club commencing at 10:30am. New ideas, new helpers and interested folk will be most welcome.

Deidre Stokes-President

